

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve Committee Meeting

February 9, 2017 – Jerry Brandenburg’s house

Committee Members Present:

Fred Ball (online)

Jerry Brandenburg

Tama Cassidy (online)

Neena Jud

Werner Jud

Bob Roth (online)

Scott Pavey

Dan Zubal (online)

Also attending:

Bill Addington

Gary Bush (online)

Bill Carr (online)

Sean Cain (online)

Bob Dobbs

Patrick Gibson (online)

Brittney Tucker

Justin Tucker

Meeting started approximately 7:15 pm

Secretary’s Report:

SP made a motion to accept the minutes from last month, WJ 2nd.

Caretaker’s Report:

P.O. Box: \$92 yearly amount due by end of month.

Front gate locks have become difficult to operate. Fred Ball will get us two new marine grade sesame locks.

Eastern Rockcastle Water has had a number of water main breaks in the past year, with boil water advisories each time. Bill has detected a rotten smell coming from his own water pipes lately, and therefore has been buying all his drinking water. He recommends purging our waterline before things get going this year, and suggested testing the water before scouts start drinking it. It was agreed that we put signage at “points of consumption” that for now, the water should not be considered potable. Advise Darryl Marsh of this. Neena to contact Ron Hager to get us these signs.

Dan Zubal made a motion to accept the Caretaker’s report, SP 2nd.

Treasurer’s Report:

Expenses exceeded Income in January. Financial Report available upon request.

Old Business

Timbre concert in GSP. Justin Tucker brought more information to the committee (background information can be found in July 2016 meeting minutes).

Timbre is a harpist and songwriter based in Nashville, Tennessee who is very excited about the opportunity to perform in GSP. She would be accompanied by a violinist and percussionist. Justin will investigate getting some opening bands at no or minimal extra cost (maybe Kate Mayfield who sings operatically with cello accompaniment).

She has a fan base in Nashville, Cincinnati, Lexington & Louisville. Justin conservatively projects selling 100-200 tickets at \$25 each presale, \$30-32 at the door.

Options included selling t-shirts pre-order only, and offering on-site camping for a limited number of concert goers.

200 tickets at \$25 each would gross \$4,000. Out of this would be paid: \$1100 to Timbre and associates (a reduced rate), cost of ticketing (suggested BrownPaperTickets.com) cost of advertising, chairs (400 chairs cost \$700), golf cart for accessible transportation (\$200), and a small audio system w/ microphone. This may net \$2,000 for GSP and we would break even at about 100 tickets sold.

BA suggested a contingency plan: If the “break even” amount of tickets are not sold by a certain date, the concert would be cancelled and tickets would be refunded. This risks only the advertising costs and ticket sales fees.

Justin has some friends who may volunteer for this event. He would appreciate caver volunteers to direct camping concert goers to appropriate sites and to give cave tours.

Proposed date: Saturday, June 17, 2017. Alternate date June 24. Gate could open at 4:00 pm, offer a full cave tour before the show and a short talk in museum section during intermission. Show could start at 5:30 or 6:00, intermission could be 30-45 minutes to allow for bathroom breaks.

The Committee encouraged Justin to get Timbre into the cave to see what the environment is like. A Thursday might be the best day to get them both here together. BA, Bob Dobbs, and/or Werner may be able to meet with them at the Preserve. Justin will take this information back to Timbre and decide upon a date to visit.

Road Repair grant funding: No new information on the grant.

The Strategic Plan was accepted by RKC.

Wheelchair for use in Cave: nothing new. Scott left the meeting before we addressed this issue.

Light on the American Flag: Gary acquired a light and tested it for 10 nights. First night it lasted through the night, but successive days were cloudy and the light remained on for only 5-9 hours each night. Conclusion – In winter during long nights after frequent cloudy days, solar powered lights do not last.

The back-up plan is to hard wire an LED flood light on the top of the flagpole aimed down at the flag (Dark Sky compliant). Light would be controlled by the same photocell as kiosk lights (and could be switched off in the panel board in the Kitchen if desired to look at stars). Wiring will be protected from rogue weed-eaters.

Article for Newspapers has been sent by Dan Zubal. He also posted it on facebook. 3182 people were reached in a week by followers sharing and re-sharing.

Open House: Bob Dobbs will contact the JrROTC to ask for their help again this year.

Last year, Fred Ball suggested (and led a couple) alternate (shorter) tours. Jerry asked Fred to develop a plan for more options.

Someone is needed to “run” Open House.

Display Case: nothing new.

Bob Dobbs talked with George Ridings, considering picnic at GSP for EKU Alumni & professors to acquaint them with the Preserve for donations and research.

The Ticket House Bob Roth shared photos and results of digging at southeast and southwest corners to determine what was constructed for a foundation. (see attachment) The floor slab crack in the old women's room is 19" deep.

The roof beams bear on the stone veneer. This is not normal construction practice. The roof load should bear on a structural wall (either concrete block or wood frame). Neena wants to look in the attic to understand the roof rafter/ceiling joist framing and connections to follow the load path from the roof down to the ground before the next meeting.

Bob proposes asking visitors for donations at Open House this year. The committee needs to develop a scope of work and then a budget by Open House. Initial thoughts are that repairing the Ticket House, installing a Memorial Wall along the south side, and re-working the stone walkway along that side may run \$25,000.

Bronze plaque honoring Ellie Schiller, no new developments.

Pressure regulator: Next one to replace is the one between the Showerhouse and the one we replaced last year. The line pressure at the Showerhouse read 90 psi, and at the replaced regulator on the hill was 35 psi in mid-January 2017.

New Business:

Scout Trail reconstruction project: Darryl Marsh sent a message saying that BSA Troop 940 from West Chester was interested in doing a service project. Darryl suggested the Scout Trail, but asked about tools & expenses. Tools available are what can be found in the Tractor Barn. Utilize stones from around the Preserve, salvaged lumber from near the showerhouse, and some of the pile of gravel in the upper parking lot if needed. BC offered to walk the trail with Darryl before the work weekend to scope it out. GSP will cover any costs (does not need to be split with Scouts since it is not an Eagle project) and anticipates no more than \$100. "Do whatever you can to make it look good."

Ron Hammond – Tabled until next month.

Announcements

WJ made a motion to adjourn, FB 2nd. Meeting ended approx. 10:15 pm.

Next meeting will be:

7:00 pm, Thursday March 9, 2017 at Jerry Brandenburg's house.

See next page for Calendar Summary

Calendar Summary:

February 13, 2017	KOR planning meeting at Jerry B's house.
February 26, 2017	RKC Strategic Planning Meeting at Boone County Lib. Rm C
February 28, 2017	GCG Executive Board Meeting at Mike Wuerth's house
March 3, 2017	GCG Meeting
March 5, 2017	RKC Annual Meeting
March 11-12, 2017	Mammoth Cave volunteer weekend with GCG
March 25, 2017	tentative Rescue Committee meeting – Jonathan Carman
April 1, 2017	BGG caving weekend at GSP
April 22, 2017	DUG Meeting in the Field
April 22, 2017	COG hosting Central Indiana Grotto at GSP for Skylight trip
May 6, 2017	Work Weekend at GSP
May 20-21, 2017	Open House at GSP
May 26-27, 2017	Speleofest at Lone Star Preserve
May 27, 2017	Mullins family reunion at the Shelter
June 17, 2017	tentative Timbre concert at GSP (June 24, 2017 alt. date)
June 17-24, 2017	NCRC Training in Bend Oregon
June 19-23, 2017	NSS Convention in Rio Rancho, New Mexico
July 21-23, 2017	Karst O Rama at GSP
September 9, 2017	Caver Appreciation Weekend at GSP



2017 Ticket House Project

Front or West Wall

16'8" L By 7'10" (Stone) 13'8" Gable

8" Stone with wooden interior

1 Door 42" W by 78" H

1 Window 42" H by 72" L



Downhill or South Wall

21'8" by 7'10" Multi veneer

Front or western part of the south wall
13'8" by 8" stone & interior of wood

Back or eastern part of the south wall
8" 8" stone & 8" Block

1 33" door 32" off the se corner



Back or East Wall

16'8" by 13'8" (Gable)

8" stone returns on the corners

15'4" 8" block in the center



Twin Wooden Beams

Beams are 7" by 10" and run the length of the north and south walls and bear on the stone veneer.

North beam shows evidence of a stair step crack under the weight of the beam



West Wall

Noticeable shift of the stone in the lower left corner of the window following the stair crack from the NW corner



West Wall

Downhill shift in the doorway header



West wall

Southside beam resting on the stone veneer of the west wall showing a much greater evidence of sediment collapse.

Patch work is present



East wall

Stone veneer on south side wall is completely gone in the se corner. Beam is showing signs of the beam shifting downhill.



SW Corner

Exposing the foundation



SE Corner

Exposed foundation

Stone veneer is present



West Wall

Inside the door way of the west wall showing the beginning of the stress crack running the length of the south wall starting approx. 5' off the SW corner



SE Corner

Stress crack exiting the back wall narrowing to approx. 2'.

Separation in the block wall is present.

Rebar and Durawall is shown and could be used in the repair.

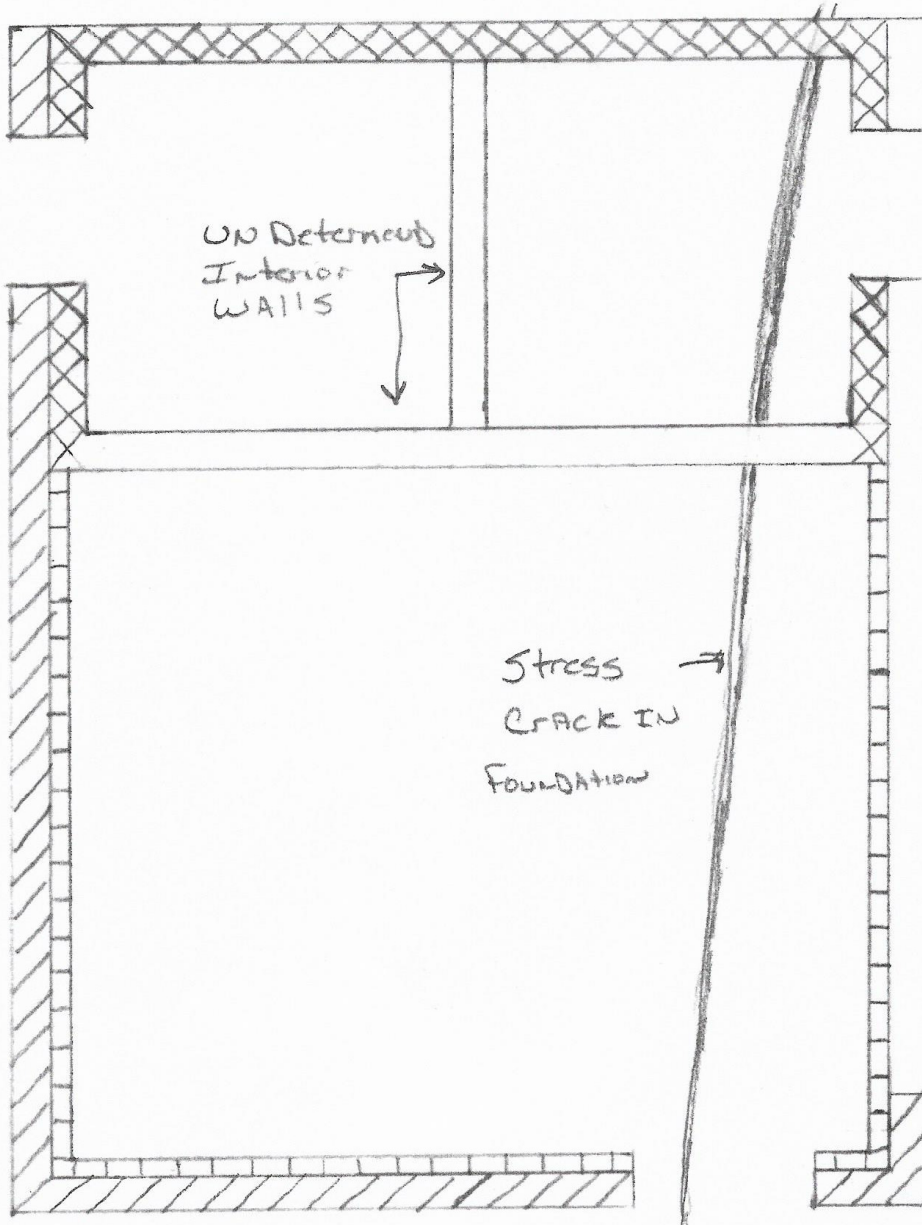
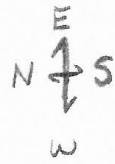
BASIC FLOOR PLAN * NOT DRAWN TO SCALE

▣ - STONE

□ - MISSING WALL

⊠ - Block 8"

▤ - wood wall 4"





Room in SE Corner

The stress crack is at its greatest exiting the back wall. Crack is approx. 5" wide and 19" deep.

Concrete slab is shown to be approx. 4" thick without any reinforced rebar or Wire mesh.

Base layer seems to be loose soil instead of gravel.



SW side of doorway on S wall

Results of the stress crack leading to block separation.

Evidence is present in the ground course but other than the return on SW corner no other stone is present

CONSTRUCTION PROCEDURES

This section describes a typical construction procedure used to lay up a foundation or basement wall in a residence or small commercial structure. The walls are built on concrete footings that are poured in an excavated trench. Type S mortar, full shell bedding, and $\frac{3}{8}$ " joint are used with 8" x 8" x 16" hollow block units. Anchor bolts embedded in the top course fasten a sill plate. The excavation is backfilled after the wall is anchored at the top and cured.

The work of the bricklayer generally starts after the footing is in place and continues until the sill plate is ready to be attached. The bricklayer must understand the construction of the footing and the attachment of the sill plate so that he can coordinate his work with that of the related trades.

1. Pour Footings

Earth is excavated so that the footing can be placed below the frost line. (Figure 2.) A trench is dug to dimensions required by the footing. Soil at the bottom of the trench must be compact to form a firm bed for the concrete. If the sides or bottom of the trench break away and the footing line is distorted, forms may be installed to hold the wet concrete. Forms ensure proper size and shape. On some assignments the trench is enlarged so that the workers have room to work within it.

The footing should be a continuous monolithic structure, supporting all portions of the wall. Footings that do not extend the full length of the wall are not recommended and are prohibited by most building codes. As a rule of thumb, the width of the footing is two times the thickness of the masonry units in the wall and the thickness of the footing is equal to the thickness of the masonry units. For example, the footing for an 8' x 8" x 16" block wall is 16" wide and 8" thick. In all assignments, the plan dimensions should be followed in pouring the footing and laying up the wall. (Figure 3.)

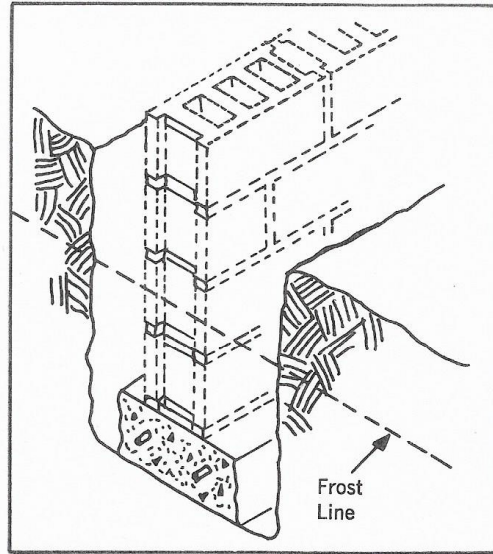


Figure 2, Pour Footing

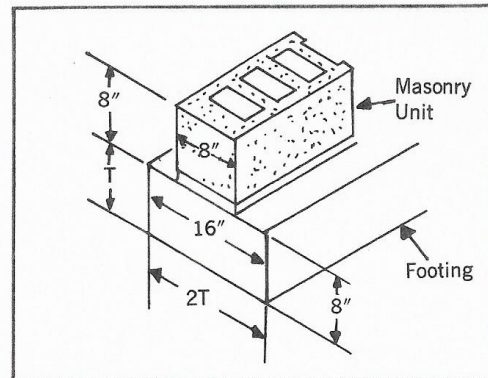


Figure 3, Footing Dimensions



South Wall

Looking west showing beam support
and the division between block and
wood walls.



South Wall

Looking east showing the beam support
tilting away from building

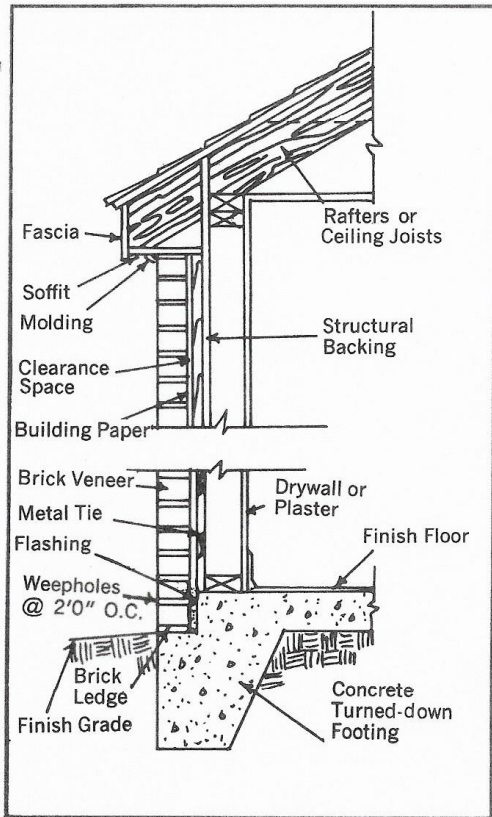
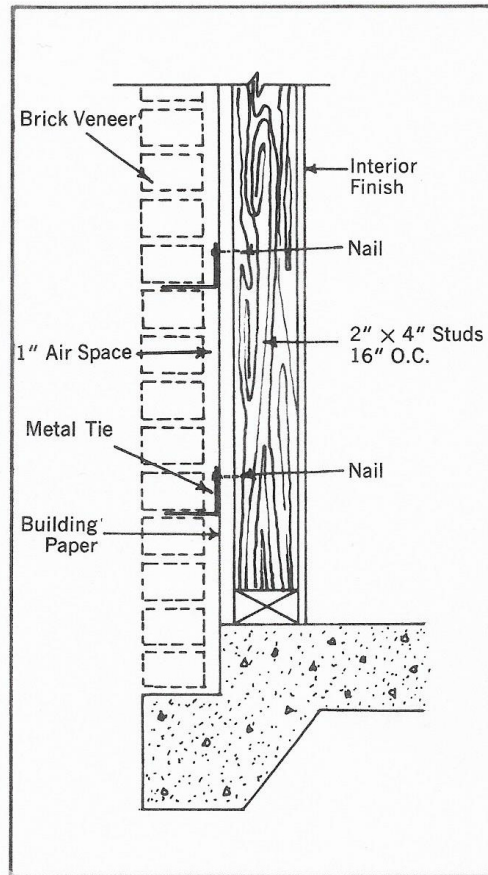
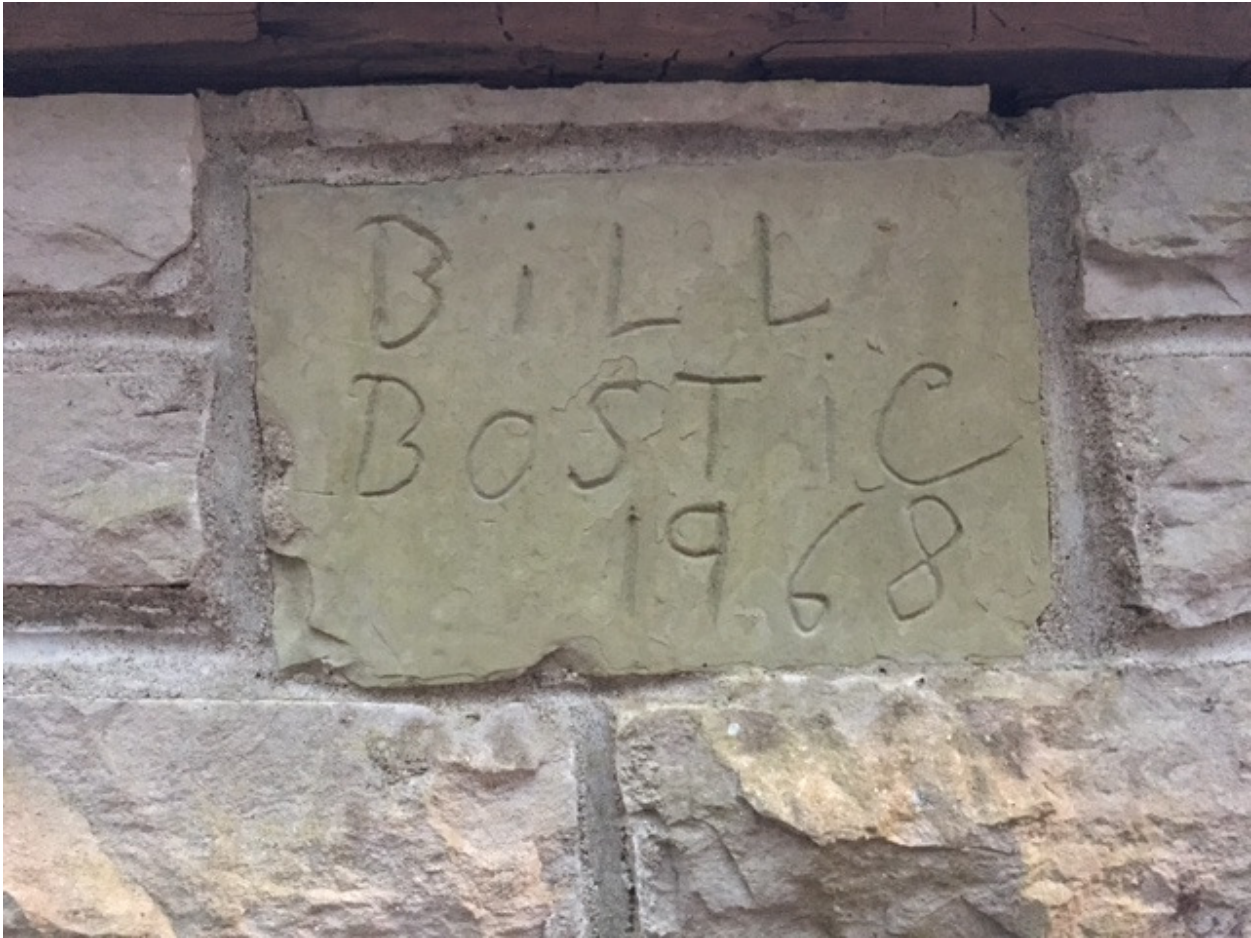


Figure 2, Veneer Wall on Frame and Slab



A veneer wall must have (1) a foundation that supports the veneer and the structural backing, (2) a structural backing capable of supporting the veneer and imposed loads, and (3) firm anchorage to the structural backing. The structural backing may be composed of studs and sheathing (as in frame construction) or made of a steel superstructure. The parts of the wall usually include: the veneer, a clearance space, the structural backing, and the interior finish.



Idea was introduced to use the south wall as a remembrance/memorial wall with a dedication ceremony in 2018 for its 50th anniversary

1st Draft Bob Roth 2-11-2017